

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application Serial No. ....10/731,419  
Filing Date .....December 9, 2003  
Inventor..... Bejani and Christensen  
Group Art Unit .....1637  
Examiner ..... David C. Thomas  
Attorney's Docket No. .... SH1-0001US  
Confirmation No.....3921  
Title: Methods of Designing, Synthesizing, and Propagating Reference Nucleic  
Acids

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 27, 2006 AS  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FOR RCE**

To: Mail Stop RCE  
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## **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Applicant respectfully requests continued examination and entry of the following amendments and remarks contained herein. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance.

**A Statement of the Substance of the Examiner Interview** of February 21, 2007 begins on page 3 of this document.

**A Listing of Claims** begins on page 4 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this document.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-9, 11, 16, 21-23, 51-53, and 71-74 were previously pending in this application.

Claims 51-53 were previously withdrawn as a non-elected invention.

Please cancel claims 7, and 73.

Please add new claims 75-80.

Claims 3, 6-7, 10, 12-15, 17-20, 24-50, 54-70, and 73 are now canceled.

Please amend claims 1, 4-5, 8-9, 16, 71, and 74 as shown below.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 8-9, 11, 16, 21-23, 71-72, and 74-80 are pending examination.